



PHOTO BY ROB WYNNE/BEHREND BEACON

'We are Penn State, and we plan on making it a better place'

SGA candidates Soltis and Sutter elected for 2003-2004

"The Pennsylvania State University has its share of issues, and our campus is no exception," said Scott Soltis. Behrend is intrinsically linked to University Park in the concerns that we face. Therefore, if something is going wrong at UP, it will hurt Behrend students and must be addressed. For this reason several of our goals will require hard work alongside the rest of the University.

The four major goals of our administration are tuition, diversity, THON, and bridging the gap between Behrend campus and University Park. We want to fix past and present problems as well as continue to develop successful endeavors. As the students of Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, We Are Penn State, and we must strive to improve our university."

Benacci named 2002 Alumni Fellow



Joseph A. Benacci was given the 2002 Alumni Fellow Award at a reception in the Reed Wintergarden on Thursday, Oct 10, 2002. Benacci is the CEO of TWL Corporation, a family-owned company in Erie. He attended Penn State Behrend in 1953-55, then continued on to University Park. Since that time, he has continued to give excellent service to the Behrend community. He was part of the organizing committee for the Behrend Alumni Association in the mid-1980s and then served as a member of its board of directors.

Benacci accepted his prestigious award from Penn State President Dr. Graham Spanier, who also visited Behrend recently for the renaming of the Lilley Library and Koche Academic Center.

Interim Provost and Dean Dr. Jack Burke introduced the recipient, praising him as "one of our most loyal alumni."

"His hard work and determination set a high standard," said Burke.

"We're here to honor an outstanding Penn Stater," said Spanier. "Joseph Benacci is a rich source of information and inspiration for the Penn State community." The Alumni Fellow Award is the most prominent award that can be given by the Alumni Association. The title is a very important and respected one to the Penn State community.

It entails asking the recipient to continue on with his or her community service to the campus and sharing their knowledge and ideas with students here.

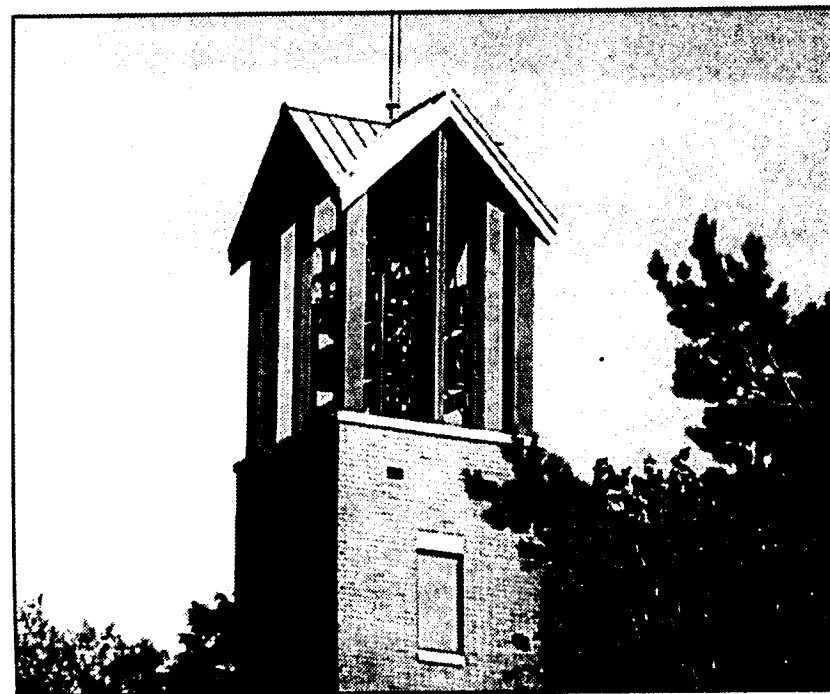
TKE recruits The Clarks to play at Behrend



FILE PHOTO

The Clarks have been around the block enough to know what fans want in a performance and they proved that Oct. 18 in Erie Hall. The Clarks have been together for more than 15 years. Rob James (6 & 12 string guitars, vocals), Scott Blasey (vocals, guitars), Greg Joseph (bass, vocals), and David Minarik Jr. (drums, vocals) make up the band that began at Indiana University. The band is mostly known in the Pittsburgh area, but with growing success and rocking albums they are becoming more nationally recognized.

Carillon installed in Smith Chapel



A 48-bell carillon was added to the Smith Chapel this past May. In mid-September, a device allowing the bells to be played electronically was installed.

Students celebrate at El Carnival



Members of the Behrend community celebrate Mardi Gras, Spanish style. The first annual El Carnival took place on Friday, Feb. 28, in Bruno's. Behrend's La Pena Club de Espanol sponsored the event, which featured a Masquerade Ball, Spanish dance lessons and the Orquesta La Crema from Buffalo. The evening also included paella, flan, punch and prizes.

To prepare for the event, all were invited to decorate their own masks throughout the week at a table outside of Bruno's. Mardi Gras beads were also sold as a way to encourage attendance at the celebration and to get people ready for last Friday's festivities.

The event, which was free and open to the public, encourages a celebration of all cultures prior to the Lenten season.

Beacon torch passed mid-semester from Wynne to Fallon

After nearly three semesters as editor-in-chief of the Beacon, Rob Wynne stepped down as editor of the Beacon during the fall semester, 2002.

Wynne, a seventh-semester history major, has been on the Beacon since his freshman year, when he started out as a staff writer. He went on to be an associate editor, writing the weekly staff editorials, and served as wire service and auto page editor before stepping into the role of editor-in-chief at the beginning of his fifth semester. He still took a very active role in the production of the Beacon as managing editor for the rest of the year.

"He's taken the paper in a positive direction and established it as a student publication," said Bob Williams of Corry Publishing, the company that prints the Beacon. Williams praised Wynne for encouraging his staff to tackle the hard news stories around campus, filling the pages with news of interest to the student body. "I can definitely tell that the paper is run by students."

Seventh-semester communications major Kevin Fallon filled Wynne's shoes as the new editor-in-chief. Fallon planned to build on the previous editors' improvements.

"The Beacon has come a long way since I started at Behrend," said Fallon, when he took over. "I hope to continue in the tradition of Rob and Jason (Snyder). I think the paper is great now, but I see a lot of potential for it. I'm really excited to be the new editor and help take the paper to the next level."

